Superior Court of Clark County



SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON FOR CLARK COUNTY

GENERAL ORDER 22-03

RESCISION OF MASK REQUIREMENTS FOR CLARK COUNTY COURTHOUSE, JUVENILE COURTHOUSE, AND FAMILYLAW ANNEX

Adopted: March 1, 2022

Effective: March 14, 2022

WHEREAS, on June 30, 2021, Washington state reopened under the Washington Ready Plan and all industry sectors previously covered by Governor Inslee's Roadmap to Recovery or the Safe Start Plan returned to usual capacity and operations.

WHEREAS, the industry specific guidance for courts previously issued by the Washington Department of Health expired on June 30, 2021.

WHEREAS, this Court previously issued multiple General Orders regarding the mandatory us of masks in courthouse facilities including General Order 21-03 and General Order 21-05 to mitigate the effects of COVID-19.

WHEREAS, the Center for Disease Control previously recommended that individuals, whether fully vaccinated or not, wear a mask in public indoor settings in areas of substantial or high transmission.

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WHEREAS the Center for Disease Control recently issued updated guidance for wearing masks based on COVID-19 Community Levels.

WHEREAS Clark County Washington is currently (as of March 3, 2022) identified as a medium community level according to the CDC which does not require wearing a mask indoors.

WHEREAS, the current Washington Department of Health mask guidance provides "[b]eginning March 12, 2022, face masks are no longer required in many indoor settings, including K-12 schools, restaurants, gyms, grocery stores and retail locations."

WHEREAS the Superior Court has obtained guidance from Dr. Alan Melnick, Clark County Public Health Director and Clark County Health Officer.

Effective Monday, March 14, 2022 General Order 21-05 (Updated Mask Requirements for Clark County Courthouse, Juvenile Courthouse, and Family Law Annex) and the portions of General Order 21-03 (Clark County Superior Court Revised COVID-19 Mitigation Order) related to mask wearing are RESCINDED.

Anyone entering Clark County courthouses may choose to wear a mask at any time. Those who are immunosuppressed are encouraged to wear a mask at all times.

Individuals who have tested positive for COVID-19 but who can leave isolation (after 5 days if symptoms are resolving and fever is gone for at least 24 hours) are required to wear masks in Clark County courthouses until 10 days after the onset of symptoms.

Individuals with close contact to someone with COVID-19 symptoms and/or who has tested positive for COVID-19 but who can leave quarantine (after 5 days if symptoms have not developed and test negative 5 days after exposure) are required to wear masks in Clark County courthouses until 10 days after exposure.

Any provisions of General Order 21-03 not specifically addressed in this General Order remain in full effect.

Dated this 10th day of March, 2022

Derek J. Vanderwood, Presiding Judge

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